

use of hunger as a weapon, which some bad actors do in countries suffering from war and natural disasters. Food aid programs work alongside the legislation to avert food shortages in such countries, making it more difficult for anyone to use hunger as a weapon in the first place.

The farm bill has some excellent programs for international food assistance that I believe should be reauthorized.

The Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust is a special authority in the 2018 farm bill that allows USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance to respond to unanticipated food crises abroad. I just sent a bipartisan letter earlier this month asking the President to release BEHT.

Food for Peace is another great program through which our country responds to humanitarian crises and food security problems globally. The idea for this program actually came from a meeting of the Southwest Kansas Farm Bureau and first appeared in 1954 when President Eisenhower signed the Agriculture Trade Development and Assistance Act into law.

Today, USDA and USAID partner with organizations to implement Food for Peace and other food aid programs, stopping global conflicts from escalating into humanitarian disasters.

The McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, named in part for Kansas' own Bob Dole, helps support education, child development, and food security in low-income, food-deficit countries around the globe. The program provides for the donation of U.S. agricultural commodities, as well as financial and technical assistance to support school meal programs as well as maternal and child nutrition programs.

I supported this program in fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023 appropriations because it has a proven track record for reducing hunger, improving literacy in children, and helping provide nutrition for pregnant and nursing mothers, infants, and preschoolers.

Earlier this month, Nicole Berg, president of the National Association of Wheat Growers, spoke to the House Agriculture Committee's Livestock and Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee. In her testimony, she gave us her eyewitness account, from her 2019 trip to Kenya and Tanzania, of how international food assistance helps those people in most need.

She visited refugee camps where the World Food Programme is feeding 98 percent of the 200,000 people there who hail from nine countries. She said that witnessing U.S. food shipments saving lives firsthand changed her life.

I want to make sure that, going forward, we use U.S. commodities while we carry out this good work abroad. If America is going to conduct international food assistance in an effective way, the Biden administration is going to have to get a grip on the agricultural impact of its trade and foreign policies.

Sadly, on an international scale, the Biden administration is turning a blind eye to agriculture. Russia's assault on Ukraine is one of the most horrifying humanitarian crises in recent memory, and it has grave food security implications for Europe.

Ukraine is known as the breadbasket of Europe. It is the third-largest grain exporter in the world. You would think this administration would want a point person to develop a strategy for addressing this looming problem, but President Biden still hasn't appointed either a USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs or a Chief Agricultural Negotiator for USTR.

The Biden administration has also sat back and done nothing to hold China accountable for stifling American farmers out of \$16 billion in the Phase One trade deal, and the President left agriculture out of his Indo-Pacific strategy entirely.

I, along with American farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers, am appalled at this shortsightedness. You cannot take food for granted, which is why the Biden administration needs to wake up and why Congress must think carefully about the reauthorization of the international food assistance programs in the farm bill.

I will be back on the floor soon to deliver another installment of my farm bill impact series. America's farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers are American heroes who are bearing the responsibility of feeding hungry people around the world.

Their efforts deserve the full support of Congress because the food security and, therefore, the national security of America hangs in the balance.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 39 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, our God, on this Holocaust Remembrance Day, we remember.

We remember the 6 million lives of Jewish men, women, and children, and the millions of others whose very being was arbitrarily deemed a disgrace, and whose light among us was extinguished. Now they, like the heavens, have no speech, nor are there words,

their voice is not heard. And yet, their cries resound to the ends of the Earth.

Remind us again that each life is sacred; Yours is the breath held in the soul of each person.

We remember that it only took one person to fuel a horrendous movement of hatred, abuse, and genocide. Though one person, there were countless others who would not speak out against the seduction of power or stand up to the sway of control.

Holy God, remind us that this murderous evil still roams the Earth this day. Convict us who remain silent and shield our eyes from the raging fire of inhumanity.

Then inspire us from remembrance to action, from indifference to indignation, from silence to speech. Then may the words of our mouths be effective in Your sight, the meditations of our hearts be worthy of Your blessing, that never again would we allow the catastrophe of the Holocaust to touch Your children.

In Your merciful name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HOULAHAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RIISING PRICES AND INFLATION

(Ms. HOULAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, I am here today to lift up the voices of my community, to address an issue facing too many Pennsylvanians, as well as others across our country. I am here to talk about rising prices and inflation.

When Sidney from Malvern tried to renew an essential prescription, it was on back order and he doesn't know when it will be back in stock.

Andrew from Mohnton is a small business owner affected by supply chain issues, making it difficult for him to employ his staff and keep his equipment running.

And Dennis from Downingtown had to sell his car because he could no longer afford the high financial burden on top of other expenses.

Our communities deserve support in facing these challenges, and it is vital that we do everything that we can to confront them. I helped establish an Inflation Working Group to find policy solutions to lower costs for Americans, reinforce supply chains, and fight inflationary pressures. Simply put, we must use every tool in our toolbox to support our families.

We live in an increasingly globalized world, which is why I, along with a bipartisan group of my colleagues, traveled to Australia and India to speak with our international partners about cooperation on trade, investments, and shoring up our supply chains.

I promise to continue to make this issue a priority, working with all of my colleagues to find substantive solutions for my constituents and for all Americans.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested.

S. 895. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption from gross income for mandatory restitution or civil damages as recompense for trafficking in persons.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 36. Concurrent Resolution honoring the life and legacy of Ulysses S. Grant in commemoration of his 200th Birthday.

RECOGNIZING JEFFERSON COUNTY CIDERWORKS

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a small business in Iowa's Second District.

Jefferson County Ciderworks of Fairfield recently won four awards at the annual New York International Cider Competition. This competition featured over 300 different ciders from around the world and was judged by industry professionals.

Jefferson County Ciderworks finished the competition with four medals, including being named the Iowa Cider Producer of the Year. Four additional ciders were awarded medals in the modern, fruit, and spiced cider categories.

I applaud Jefferson County Ciderworks for proudly representing Iowa on the international stage and wish them the best in the Great Lakes International Cider and Perry competition later this year.

HONORING THE WEATHER CHANNEL'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mrs. MCBATH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, 40 years ago, live from Atlanta, Georgia, households across America were introduced to The Weather Channel. For the first time, Americans could get safe, reliable, trustworthy information about the weather 24 hours a day.

Since its first broadcast, The Weather Channel has done far more than just provide up-to-date information about weather forecasts. With the help of friendly, familiar faces, The Weather Channel's reporting has inspired countless young people to wonder and care about the natural world around them, motivating them to study weather and our climate. And through their constant innovation, The Weather Channel's award-winning breakthroughs in weather reporting have undoubtedly saved countless American lives.

I am proud to lead a House Resolution with my colleague from Georgia, Congressman LOUDERMILK, to commemorate the anniversary; and I wish The Weather Channel continued success as they document and broadcast vital weather and safety information to millions of households across the country.

WASHINGTON DEMOCRATS NEED TO GET SERIOUS

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, in Fiscal Year 2021, Customs and Border Patrol seized 11,000 pounds of fentanyl at our southern border. During the same period, opioid deaths jumped to 75,000, up from 56,000 deaths the prior year.

This is no coincidence. Even in a hearing on combating the opioid crisis this week, not a single one of my Democratic colleagues called for President Biden to end his open border policies that have allowed the free flow of fentanyl or other illicit drugs into the United States.

During the hearing, the former Acting DEA Administrator testified that securing the border is a commonsense approach to stopping drug traffickers and giving power back to our law enforcement.

On one hand, Washington Democrats say they want to solve the opioid crisis. On the other hand, they are supporting policies and politicians that have left our border open.

Washington Democrats need to get serious. If we want to solve this opioid crisis, we must secure the border and restore law and order.

MARKING BIRTHDAY OF THE 11TH PANCHEN LAMA

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, this week, we mark the 33rd birthday of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama. Born in central Tibet, at the age of six he was recognized by His Holiness the Dalai Lama as the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, one of the most important figures in the Gelug School of Tibetan Buddhism, and a senior figure across all of Tibet.

In May of 1995, just 3 days after he was recognized, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima and his family were taken away by the Chinese Government. Disappeared. Kidnapped.

For 27 years, Tibetan Buddhists have asked of his well-being. For 27 years, Chinese authorities have refused to provide proof of life. The most they have said is that he is well and wants to be left alone.

Tibetans deserve an answer. The world deserves to know.

Gedhun Choekyi Nyima remains one of the world's longest-held prisoners of conscience.

His enforced disappearance is an egregious example of the Chinese Government's violation of the religious freedom of Tibetan Buddhists, who have the right to choose their own religious leaders, including the Dalai Lama, without government interference.

In honor of his birthday, I again call on the Chinese Government to free the true Panchen Lama immediately and to uphold its international obligation to respect the religious freedom of all persons.

WELCOMING GEORGIAN PRESIDENT ZOURABICHVILI

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Washington welcomed President Salome Zourabichvili, of the Republic of Georgia, who had come to attend the funeral of former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

During an interview with The Washington Post, President Zourabichvili explained that, along with Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova were the two countries closest to Russia wanting to join NATO and the European Union, but not protected by either. "Georgia should not be forgotten" and if so, they might be a temptation for the Russian leadership.

President Zourabichvili reviewed that Georgia also had a history of war with Russia, most recently in 2008, as well as 1991, shortly after declaring independence.

It is reassuring, the President said, the Georgian population is 100 percent united in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. Americans are also united for the independence of Georgia, Moldova, led by President Maia Sandu, and Ukraine.